

4.3

### Random Variable

Expts:

flip a coin: H, T non-numerical  
dice: 1-6 numerical

- function
- associate #'s with every outcome of an expt.
- with multiple trials, assign #'s to outcomes

Ex: coin flip  $\times 10$

R.V. = # of heads

= 0, 1, 2, 3, ..., 9, 10

↑  
certain  
values

Ex: light bulbs

RV = # hrs burned

= 0 —  $\infty$

↑  
any value

# Random Variable: 2 TYPES



## DISCRETE Random Variables

## CONTINUOUS Random Variables

What Is It?

Ex: coin flip

- only takes certain distinct values - finite #

ex: 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, ...

Ex: light bulb 0-2.000

- takes any values in an interval - infinite #

Examples:

# kids in a family

# defective comp. chip in a box

- height

- weight

- time to run a mile

Distribution/Function

- picture  
- prob.

Prob. Distrib.

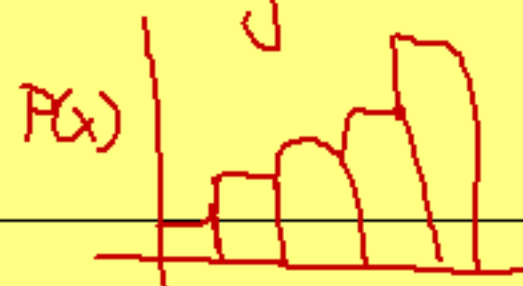
$X$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	...	$x_n$
$P(x)$	$P(x_1)$	$P(x_2)$			$P(x_n)$

CH. 1 - assign probabilities to intervals



Properties of Distribution

Picture: histogram



$P(x=4)$   $P(2 \leq x \leq 8)$

- area = 1

\* Probability

$P(a \leq x \leq b)$  Density Fctn.  
 $P(x=4) = 0$

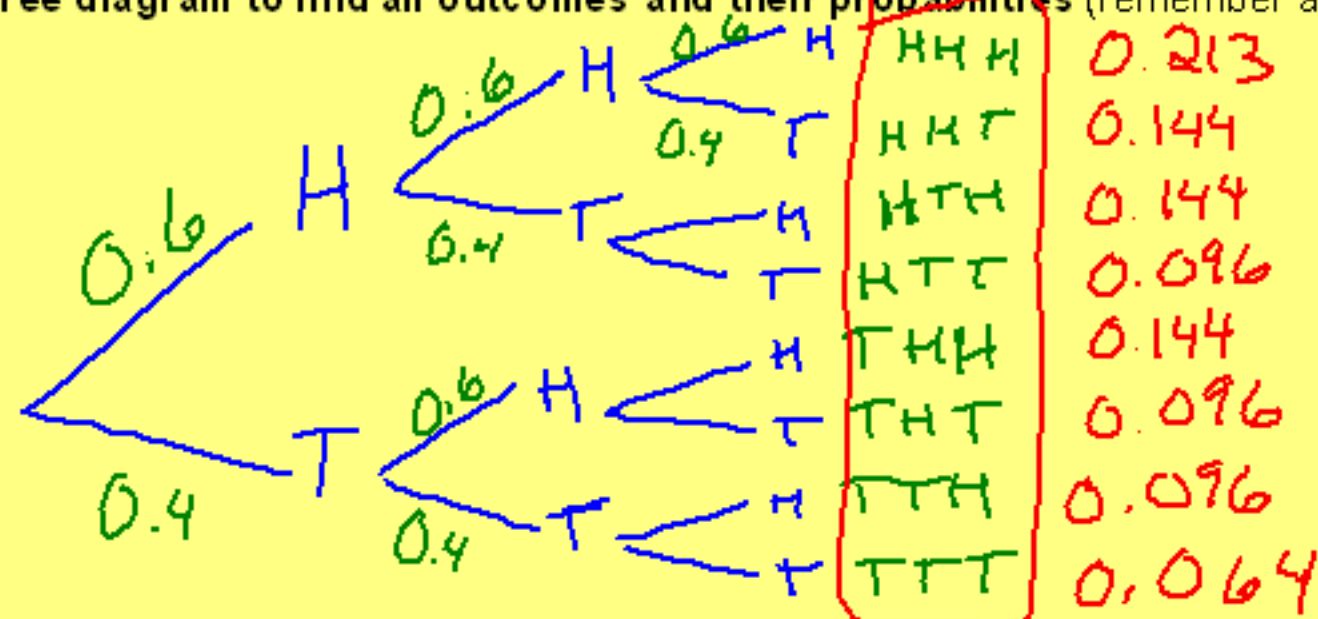
normalcdf(LB, UB,  $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$ )

Example: Unfair Coin

$P(H) = 0.6, P(T) = 0.4$

Toss 3 times,  $X = \#$  of Heads

Create a tree diagram to find all outcomes and their probabilities (remember all trials are independent):



Using the outcomes and their probabilities, create a probability distribution below:

* X	0	1	2	3
P(X)	TTT 0.064	HHT THT TTH 0.096 x 3 0.288	HHT HTH TTH 0.144 x 3 0.432	HHH 0.213

How can we find the probabilities without the tree diagram?

Formula:

$$P(X=k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$\binom{n}{k}$ : # of successes  
 $p^k$ : prob of success  
 $(1-p)^{n-k}$ : total # of trials

Coin Example:

X	P(X)
0	$\binom{3}{0} (0.6^0) (0.4^3) =$
1	$\binom{3}{1} (0.6^1) (0.4^2) =$
2	$\binom{3}{2} (0.6^2) (0.4^1) =$
3	$\binom{3}{3} (0.6^3) (0.4^0) =$

$\frac{1}{8}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

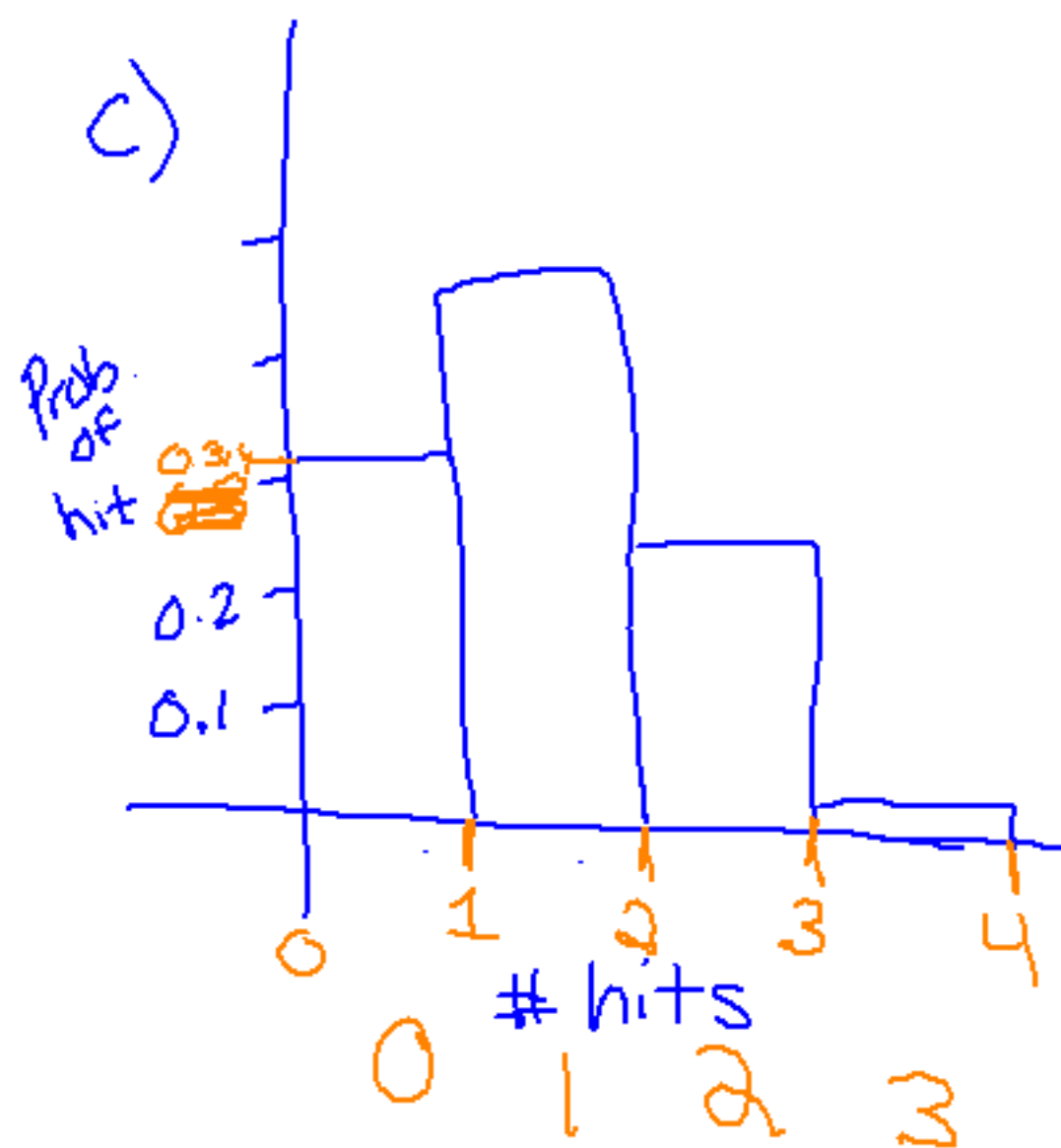
$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{1}{8}$

a) HHH  
 HHO  
 HHH  
 OHH  
 OOH  
 OHO  
 HOO  
 OOO

b)

$x$	$P(x)$
0	$(3nC_0)(0.32^0)(0.68^3) = 0.314432$
1	$(3nC_1)(0.32^1)(0.68^2) = 0.443904$
2	0.208896
3	0.032768



d)

$$P(X=3) = 0.032768$$

$$P(X=1 \text{ or } X=2) = 0.6528$$

$$P(X < 1) = P(X=0) = 0.314432$$

$$P(X > 1) = P(X \geq 2) = 0.241664$$

$$P(X=2) = 0.208896$$